

January 18, 1990 LB 161

I will vote to support the committee amendments. I think the committee amendments are good to put the bill in better shape but I will pass on the bill. I think we need to sit back and think a little more on it. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. The member from the 2nd District, Senator Roger Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Mr. President, members, Senator Schmit, could you yield to a couple questions, please on this?

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Schmit, would you respond?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes, Senator Wehrbein, I'll be glad to.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: One is, Iowa has recently passed some laws, at least restricting the use of atrazine. Are you aware, is that in response to their own laws or would that be through the EPA or FIFRA or just how would that have come about in Iowa? It's...may be a side to the question on this, but maybe it isn't.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Senator, I used to do a lot of aerial application work in the State of Iowa and as you know portions of that state are very undulating, very rolling and there is a lot of concern with the erosion problem that has developed over there because of higher rainfall and heavy applications of atrazine. And to my knowledge, and I visited briefly last session with some of the senators over there, the bill which limited the application of atrazine is strictly an independent bill. We could have the same kind of a bill here if we chose to, independent of this kind of program and would probably be better accepted and I think that's what they felt in Iowa, better accepted than to have an agency mandated program which might happen otherwise.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you. I really just wanted to get at that issue whether this is involved. Another question I would have, if I would understand you correctly in what you're saying, you're saying that if we were...if these requirements were to come to us via the federal government, via the EPA, that they would impose...they would probably pose less restrictive regulations on themselves than they would if we were to take this over ourselves and then mandate some regulations. Is that what you're saying in essence?